In Fall 2010, Idaho State University changed from Legacy to Banner for their Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. As a result, two primary changes occurred that impacted their student headcount.

1) Dual Credit students are students who take college courses in coordination with their local high school. These courses count for both high school and postsecondary credit. Before Fall 2010, students who enrolled in a dual credit course that spanned the Fall and Spring semester at ISU were counted as enrolled for both Fall and Spring. Beginning in 2010, these students were only counted in the Fall.

2) In 2010, ISU began a system of priority enrollment. This system is designed to maximize classroom space and offer more options for students needing to add courses. Priority enrollment gives priority to students who have met their financial obligations to the University and disenrolls students who have not met these obligations. Consequently, students are being disenrolled prior to the 10th day headcount. In the past, students who failed to meet their financial obligations would have been disenrolled after 10th day. This change led to a drop in 10th day headcount.

In addition, the State Board of Education and ISU worked in conjunction to correct an error in reporting methodology. Tech Prep students who are in high school were formerly counted in ISU's Headcount submitted to the Department of Professional Technical Education. These students were not to be included and this was corrected in Fall 2010.

These three factors are contributors to ISU's drop in enrollment.